

GAUL J HERBERT JR  
Form 4  
December 18, 2006

**FORM 4**

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

OMB APPROVAL

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**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
GAUL J HERBERT JR

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O BERRY PETROLEUM  
COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN

(Street)

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
BERRY PETROLEUM CO [BRY]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/15/2006

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

\_\_\_ Director \_\_\_ 10% Owner  
\_\_\_ Officer (give title below) \_\_\_ Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)  
\_X\_ Form filed by One Reporting Person  
\_\_\_ Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Code V Amount (D) Price		
Class A Common Stock					4,000	D	

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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SEC 1474 (9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

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1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 7.0312					12/02/1999 12/02/2009	Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 7.8438					12/02/2000 12/02/2010	Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 7.725					12/02/2001 12/02/2011	Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 8.07					12/02/2002 12/02/2012	Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 9.61					12/02/2003 12/02/2013	Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Options	\$ 21.77					12/02/2004 12/02/2014	Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Option	\$ 30.645					12/15/2005 12/15/2015	Class A Common Stock
Phantom Stock Units <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 0 <sup>(2)</sup>					08/08/1988 <sup>(3)</sup> 08/08/1988 <sup>(4)</sup>	Class A Common Stock
Nonstatutory Stock Option	\$ 32.565	12/15/2006		A <sup>(5)</sup>	10,000	12/15/2006 12/14/2016	Class A Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
GAUL J HERBERT JR C/O BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN				

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

## Signatures

Kenneth A Olson under POA for J.  
Gaul

12/18/2006

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) 1 for 1
- (2) 1 for 1
- (3) Phantom Stock Units acquired under the Company's Non-Employee Director Deferred Compensation Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Shares of Common Stock are issued under terms of the Plan upon resignation from the board of directors.
- (4) Phantom Stock Units acquired under the Company's Non-Employee Director Deferred Compensation Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Shares of Common Stock are issued under terms of the Plan upon resignation from the board of directors.
- (5) Grant of Non-statutory stock option under the Company's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Options vest 100% on date of grant.
- (6) Grant of Non-statutory stock option under the Company's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Options vest 100% on date of grant.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.